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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/671,094	
	Filing Date	September 25, 2003	
	First Named Inventor	DUNCAN P. L. BATHE	
	Art Unit	3743	
	Examiner Name	Amadeus Sebastian Lopez	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	3	Attorney Docket Number	3848-00760

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
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Firm Name	Andrus, Sceales, Starke & Sawall, LLP	
Signature	<i>Peter T. Holsen</i>	
Printed name	Peter T. Holsen	
Date	August 17, 2006	Reg. No. 54,180

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:		
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PATENT

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Application of:	)	<u>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</u>
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Examiner: Amadeus Sebastian Lopez	)	mail in an envelope addressed to:
BREATHING CIRCUIT ADAPTER	)	Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,
Attorney Docket No. 3848-00760	)	Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 17th day
	)	of August, 2006.
	)	
	)	<u>Aleshia Prange</u> August 17, 2006
	)	Aleshia Prange Date

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE  
UNDER 37 CFR §1302.14(e)

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Sir:

The Notice of Allowance and Notice of Allowability for the above-referenced U.S. Patent Application were mailed on August 9, 2006. In the Notice of Allowability, the Examiner sets forth a Statement of Reasons for Allowance. On page 3, the Examiner states that the means for releaseably coupling the adapter to the ventilator as claimed in independent claims 1 and 16 "includes" a specific set of structural elements.

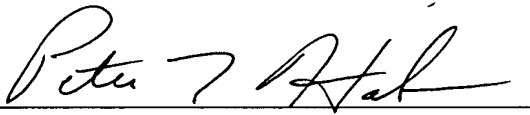
Applicant notes for the record that the claim limitation "means for releaseably coupling said adapter to the ventilator" in claims 1 and 16 is a "means plus function" limitation and as such is necessarily interpreted under §112, sixth paragraph, as covering the corresponding structure provided in the specification and equivalents thereof. The

Application No. 10/671,094  
Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance  
Under 37 CFR §1302.14(e) dated August 17, 2006  
Attorney Docket No. 3848-00760

limitation "means for releaseably coupling said adapter to the ventilator" is not limited to the structure listed by the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

ANDRUS, SCEALES, STARKE & SAWALL, LLP

By 

Peter T. Holsen  
Reg. No. 54,180

Andrus, Sceales, Starke & Sawall, LLP  
100 East Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1100  
Milwaukee, WI 53202-4178  
Phone: (414) 271-7590  
Facsimile: (414) 271-5770